

Commissioner for Patents

**REMARKS**

The number of claims in original Parent Application Serial No. 09/494,500 was 12. The number of claims allowed in that Parent application was 4, namely claims 5, 13, 14 and 15.

The number of claims in the present Divisional application is 7, namely: claims 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21, as set forth below:

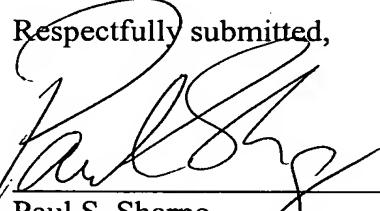
- original claims 1-7 and 9-12 have been withdrawn, with traverse;
- claim 8 is currently amended; and
- new claims 16-21 are added.

In addition, disclosure pages 1, 3, 6, 7, and 9-16 are herein amended to incorporate the amendments effected throughout the prosecution of Parent Application Serial No. 09/494,500.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge the filing of this Preliminary Amendment and confirm that claims 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 are pending in the present Divisional application.

Respectfully submitted,

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